in the conductivity of cells, manifested in highest degree by nerve-cells, but common in some degree to cells of all kinds. Also in the fact that when two amoebae are brought into closest contact (as when one swallows another), their substances do not *mix* or blend, but remain distinct. Such an immense supra-molecule, he says, cannot vibrate, and hence cannot become heated [is it, then, at zero temperature?], but takes up kinetic energy and renders it latent in the form of intra-atomic energy; and the accumulation of this causes katabolisrn. Further, he argues, a molecule is of constant atomic composition. How, then, can it grow ?

One may ask whether this view is compatible with the flowing of the substance of an amoeba and the fusions of its pseudopodia; also with the phenomena of mitosis. Still, Loewenthal is able to cite earlier physiologists as having held similar views of molecular continuity of the protoplasm of every cell; notably Edmund Montgomery and W. Pfliiger, the most influential German physiologist of the latter nineteenth century.

The former went so far as to suggest that perhaps all the cells of the nervous system are continuous through protoplasmic bridges and constitute one molecule. In this way he sought to account for the unity and individuality of each organism, and also for the unity of consciousness.

It is difficult to estimate the possible value and the tenability of this speculation. Certainly Loewenthal is right in insisting that the matter of living tissues is very different from a mere colloidal aggregation of

molecules.
But it may be pointed out that he is wrong in assuming that the super-molecule is necessarily implied by the recognition of continuous fields of energy or force such